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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE
LICENSE OF

GERI B. DESCAFANO, RN
License #26N009841400

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (the "Board") upon receipt of information indicating that Geri B. Descafano, RN ("Respondent") was discharged in October 2014 from the staff of a hospital under reasonable suspicion of impairment while on duty and her refusal to undergo drug/alcohol testing with the hospital's occupational health section. Respondent maintained that she had a difficult year and that she is under the care of a pain management doctor. Respondent declined an offer to enroll in and participate with

the Board's designated intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program (RAMP) to undergo a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation as she has no intentions of returning to nursing and does not see nursing in her future.

The Board finds that testing, monitoring, evaluation, and treatment are warranted as a condition for continued or reinstated licensure to evaluate whether Respondent's continued practice may jeopardize the safety and welfare of the public pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(f) and to ensure that Respondent can properly discharge nursing functions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-22(e).

The Board having reviewed this matter, the parties desiring to resolve this matter without further proceedings, Respondent having waived any right to a hearing, the Board having determined that the within Order is sufficiently protective of the public, and for good cause shown;

IT IS on this 2 day of September, 2015
HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent hereby voluntarily surrenders her license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey. Respondent shall not hereafter apply for reinstatement of her license unless and until she can demonstrate that she is fit and competent to practice nursing, has undergone a comprehensive mental health

and substance abuse evaluation under the auspices of RAMP, followed the recommendations of the evaluator and RAMP, gained RAMP's support for reinstatement, and has met all other requirements for reinstatement.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN

Board President

I have read and understand the within Order and consent to the entry of the Order as a matter of public record.

Geri B. Descafano, RN License # 26NO09841400